

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINSHA 01662 270618Z

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TAGS: PFOR, CG, AO, US

SUBJECT: GOZ AIRFIELD IMPROVEMENT

REF: (A) KINSHASA 1549

1. FURTHER DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN CHIEF, ZAMISH AND ZAIRIAN MILITARY HAVE ELICITED MORE DETAILED INFORMATION CONCERNING ZAIRE'S PLANS FOR RUNWAY MODERNIZATION (REF A). ORDER OF PRIORITY FOR PROGRAMMED IMPROVEMENTS IS AS FOLLOWS: (1) KAMINA, (2) KOLWEZI, (3) N'DJILI, (4) KITONA; AND, (5) N'DOLO.

2. PLANNED IMPROVEMENTS AND ESTIMATED COSTS FOR EACH AIRFIELD ARE AS SHOWN:

A. KAMINA. (PHASE I). LENGTHEN RUNWAYS, CONSTRUCT OVERRUNS AND JET BARRIERS, RESURFACE RUNWAYS, CONSTRUCT ADDITIONAL TAXIWAYS, CONSTRUCT MUNITIONS DEPOTS, AND CONSTRUCT A PARACHUTE TOWER AND JET BLAST PADS. PROVIDE A NEW CONTROL TOWER, 2 TO 3 ADDITIONAL HANGARS, A SPORT COMPLEX AND MESS HALLS FOR OFFICER AND ENLISTED PERSONNEL. ESTIMATED COSTS FOR THESE PHASE I IMPROVEMENTS IS \$4,675,360 OF WHICH \$1,402,408 HAS ALREADY BEEN SPENT SINCE WORK STARTED IN FEBRUARY 1975. PHASE II PLANS FOR HIGH SPEED TAXIWAYS, 60 HOUSES, ELECTRICAL IMPROVEMENTS, REPAIRS TO CANAL CURRENTLY PROVIDING WATER TO THE BASE, ADDITIONAL BUILDINGS FOR ADMINISTRATION AND INSTRUCTION, AND NAVIGATIONAL AIDS. COST ESTIMATES FOR PHASE II ARE NOT AVAILABLE

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SECRET

PAGE 02 KINSHA 01662 270618Z

AT THIS TIME.

B. KOLWEZI. INSTALLATION OF BEACONS, RADARS, CONTROL TOWER AND SHOPS. ALSO, CONSTRUCTION OF OVERRUNS, A HANGAR, INCREASED PARKING FACILITIES, ENLARGE FUEL STORAGE CAPACITY AND IMPROVEMENTS IN WATER/ELECTRICAL FACILITIES. ESTIMATED COST IS \$2,800,000.

C. KITONA. RESURFACE RUNWAY, CONSTRUCT OVERRUNS AND JET BARRIERS, BUILD ANTI-EROSION DIKES, JET BLAST PADS AND BASE SECURITY FENCE. OBTAIN FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT, AND ENLARGE BASE SUPPORT FACILITIES, I.E., SHOP SPACE, PARACHUTE-PACK BUILDING, DEVELOP ELECTRICAL/WATER FACILITIES. COST ESTIMATE FOR THESE IMPROVEMENTS IS \$3,000,000.

D. N'DJILI. (PHASE I). ENLARGE PARKING, LIGHTING SYSTEM FOR TAXI/PARKING AREAS, AND CONSTRUCT SECURITY FENCES. COST ESTIMATE IS \$896,000. PHASE II. ENLARGE SHOP SPACE AND PURCHASE TEST EQUIPMENT, RESURFACE PORTIONS OF TAXIWAYS AND PARKING, ESTIMATED COST FOR PHASE II IS \$400,000.

E. N'DOLO. CONSTRUCT WAREHOUSES AND BUILD BASE SECURITY FENCES. COST ESTIMATES IS \$600,000.

3. OBVIOUSLY, COST ESTIMATES ARE BALLPARK FIGURES AND ARE MOST LIKELY LOW, SINCE THEY WERE PREPARED IN 1974. CHIEF, ZAMISH HAS BEEN PROMISED A DETAILED PICTURE OF THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS. IN ESSENCE, FAZA PLANS TO BASE THE 17 MIRAGE INTERCEPTORS AT KAMINA, USING KOLWEZI AS AN ALTERNATE RECOVERY BASE. IF A THREAT SHOULD DEVELOP IN BAS-ZAIRE, INTERCEPTORS WOULD BE DEPLOYED TO N'DJILI/KITONA. N'DOLO IS ENVISIONED AS STRICTLY A LOGISTICS SUPPORT BASE, AND IS ALREADY SUITABLE TO ACCOMMODATE C-130 AIRCRAFT.
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